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ABSTRACT

This book, which is about five alternative points of view or perspectives on teaching adults, is the result of several years of teaching and research in Canada, China, Hong Kong, Singapore, and the United States. The perspectives were obtained through a study of 253 teachers of adults. The book is organized in three sections. Section 1 contains three chapters by Daniel D. Pratt: "The Research Lens: A General Model of Teaching"; "Indicators of Commitment: Actions, Intentions, and Beliefs"; and "Alternative Frames of Understanding: Introduction to Five Perspectives." These chapters provide an overview to the framework that guided the original research, and the basic structure of five perspectives on teaching that emerged from that research. The five chapters of Section 2 present the alternative points of view on teaching adults: "The Transmission Perspective: Effective Delivery of Content" (Arnold Boldt); "The Apprenticeship Perspective: Modeling Ways of Being" (Janice Johnson, Daniel D. Pratt); "The Developmental Perspective: Cultivating Ways of Thinking" (Ric Arseneau, Dirk Rodenburg); "The Nurturing Perspective: Facilitating Self-Efficacy" (Caddie T'Kenye); and "The Social Reform Perspective: Seeking a Better Society" (Tom Nesbit). The three chapters of Section 3, also by Daniel D. Pratt, provide an analysis of the perspectives and the means for evaluating teaching within and across perspectives. Titles are as follows: "Analytical Tools: Epistemic, Normative, and Procedural Beliefs"; "Analyzing Perspectives: Identifying Commitments and Belief Structures"; and "Evaluating Teaching: Approaches That Are Equitable and Rigorous." The book is indexed by author and by subject. (KC)

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